

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the Related Applications paragraph on page 1, with the following paragraph:

This application is a divisional of U.S. Application No. 09/266,464, filed March 11, 1999[.], now U.S. Patent No. 6,329,159 B1. The entire teachings of the above application are incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace paragraph at page 4, lines 1-8 with the following paragraph:

In another embodiment, the antibody or antigen-binding fragment of the invention binds to an epitope which is the same as or is similar to the epitope recognized by mAb 3C3 or an antigen-binding fragment thereof. For example, the binding of the antibody or antigen-binding fragment of the invention to human GPR-9-6 can be inhibited by a peptide that consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3. In another embodiment, the binding of the antibody or antigen-binding fragment of the invention to human GPR-9-6 can be inhibited by mAb 3C3. In a preferred embodiment, the antibody is mAb 3C3 or antigen-binding fragment thereof.

Please replace paragraph at page 14, lines 9-13 with the following paragraph:

In a particular embodiment, the antibody or antigen-binding fragment can inhibit the binding of a mammalian (e.g., human) TECK to mammalian (e.g., human) GPR-9-6 and/or one or more functions mediated by GPR-9-6 in ~~respond~~ response to TECK binding. In a particularly preferred embodiment, the antibody or antigen-binding fragment can inhibit the binding of TECK to GPR-9-6 and, thereby inhibit TECK-induced chemotaxis.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 18 and 19 with the following paragraph:

“Functional variants” of mammalian GPR-9-6 proteins include functional fragments, functional mutant proteins, and/or functional fusion proteins which can be ~~produce~~ produced using suitable methods (e.g., mutagenesis (e.g., chemical mutagenesis, radiation mutagenesis),

recombinant DNA techniques). A “functional variant” is a protein or polypeptide which has at least one function characteristic of a mammalian GPR-9-6 protein as described herein, such as a binding activity, a signaling activity and/or ability to stimulate a cellular response. Preferred functional variants can bind a ligand (i.e., one or more ligands, such as TECK).